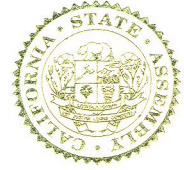




California State Legislature

Joint Republican Caucus



October 30, 2012

Josephine Lucey, Cupertino Union School District
President-Elect, California School Boards Association

Carol Kocivar
President, PTA

Dean E. Vogel
President, California Teachers Association

Mark G. Yudof
President, University of California

Joshua Pechthalt
President, California Federation of Teachers

Timothy P. White
Chancellor, California State University

Allan Clark
President, California School Employees Association

Brice Harris,
Chancellor, California Community Colleges

Dear Education Leaders:

As the Leaders of the Senate and Assembly Republican caucuses, we stand united in ensuring our students and classrooms are a budget priority. We want to work across the aisle to repeal the proposed trigger cuts as soon as the Legislature reconvenes.

Throughout this year's budget debate, Republicans argued that education did not have to be the target of these deep trigger cuts. The Senate and Assembly caucuses joined together and proposed a "Roadmap to Protect Classrooms and Taxpayers" which would have maintained school programmatic funding at the prior year funding level without job-killing tax hikes. In fact, we were not alone. The non-partisan Legislative Analyst's office proposed its own alternative budget proposal that would have radically reduced the cuts to K-14 schools. Unfortunately, the Governor and the Democrats rejected both proposals.

It is time to put aside partisan politics and put education first. When the Legislature reconvenes, Republicans will work to repeal the trigger cuts and to find long-term solutions to help our economy grow, protect our classrooms and finally end our ongoing budget crisis.

Sincerely,

Senator Bob Huff
Senate Republican Leader

Assemblywoman Connie Conway
Assembly Republican Leader

Cc: Governor Jerry Brown
Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg
Assembly Speaker John A. Pérez